

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

By Rev. Charles E. Fuller

(Preached Sunday Night, March 15, 1942. Mechanically Recorded.)

In your Bibles, turn to I Kings the tenth chapter. We are going to look at the first thirteen verses.

It is a story of the visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon. We find the blessed gospel told forth in Christ and a foreshadowing of the wonderful gospel we who are saved enjoy this side of Calvary. Now the Queen of Sheba, a very wealthy queen and ruler, lived south of Palestine. She was queen of the present Ethiopia or northern Abyssinia country. Solomon, who was on the throne in Jerusalem at this time, was not only very wealthy, rich and powerful, but a very wise king. Great trade routes by ship of sea and by camel caravans went between Palestine and the countries east and west and especially in the south. Here we find there was great commercial activity in fragrant spices, precious stones, and gold. Let me read to you the first thirteen verses, or part of these thirteen verses:

"And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to prove him with hard questions. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart. And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, and the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was



Dr. Charles E. Fuller

not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard." (verses 1-7).

Here is a heart-gripping story with deep human interest, very short, right to the point. In reading over these verses down to the thirteenth, I note seven steps in the record of the Queen of Sheba's visit to King Solomon. As we give you these seven steps, we wish

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RICE-SHUFELT CLEVELAND CAMPAIGN

By The Editor

In Music Hall last night, 3,075 people, by count, heard the sermon on "What Shall I Do Then With Jesus?" There were twenty professions of faith. In the great afternoon service about 2,400 people heard the sermon on "What Will Happen In Cleveland When Jesus Comes" and there were twenty-two professions of faith in Christ as Savior. This is written Monday, March 5th. There has been a steady and blessed growth in all the services, in attendance and power.

Saturday night, when people do not usually expect a great crowd at revivals, there were about 1800 people present, and thirty-six people came forward on a sharp, clear invitation to accept Christ as Savior, or as confessed backsliders who had been out in sin, coming back to live for Christ. Hundreds of others stood, after the sermon on Daniel, "The Young Man Who Had Backbone Enough To Say No" to pledge themselves to Daniel's vow not to defile themselves, but to leave off everything that was questionable, by God's grace; to go anywhere God said go; to work only where God said work; to marry only the one God said marry; to have habits and amusements only as they were pleasing to God. It was a tremendous time of blessing.

The revival influence is spreading over the adjacent part of Ohio. A delegation came Saturday night from Ashtabula, Ohio. Six of them came to Christ in the invitation. A delegation was present the same night from Norwalk, about 60 miles away. (Ashtabula is about the same distance). The pastor said that the revival has already come to Norwalk, to his church. People had been hearing the daily radio service, some had been coming down on the bus to attend the revival and on returning had been telling of the crowds, the blessings received, and the manifestations of God's power.

The budget of the campaign, not counting any traveling expense, hotel accommodations, meals for remuneration for the evangelistic party, is about

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214 West Wesley Wheaton, Illinois

Heretofore our address in Wheaton has been 145 North Hale Street. We continue our book store at the former address, but the offices are now moving to our recently purchased building now remodelled, at 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois. Be sure to address all mail for every purpose concerning *The Sword of the Lord* to this address, all orders for books, all subscriptions, and all correspondence to 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

"Hast Thou Found Me, O Mine Enemy?"

By Evangelist John R. Rice

(Sermon Preached Sunday Night, September 13, 1936. Stenographically Reported.)

Ahab was king of Israel with his capital at the city of Samaria. He had married the wicked queen, Jezebel. Ahab coveted the vineyard of Naboth for a garden of vegetables, but could not buy it nor trade for it. Wicked Jezebel took the king's seal and sent orders to have Naboth stoned for blasphemy, and then King Ahab went down to take possession of the vineyard. Now read with me the rest of the story in I Kings, chapter 21, verses 17 to 26.

"And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it. And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, in the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine. And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord. [Oh, I can imagine that king, how he hated Elijah! He reared him with a holy fear, and he said, Hast thou found me? I did not know I would have to face you and face God. Oh, my enemy, have you found me? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord.] Behold,

I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin. And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat. But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the Lord cast out before the children of Israel."

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Personal Evangelism

By Rev. George W. Truett, D.D., LL.D.

Late Pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas

Now, to be sure, many cases—I think most cases—are brought to Christ by individual, personal effort. One person goes out after another and brings that other to Christ. Andrew went after his brother Simon, much stronger than Andrew, self-willed and impulsive and strengthful; and yet modest Andrew brought his strong and aggressive brother to the Messiah. Time and again is the lesson written large for us in human experience, that one person may go out and bring another person to Christ. Some of us in our pastorates see that truth illustrated week by week.

A Lawyer

I am thinking now of a noble lawyer in Waco, his name, Judge Waller Baker. Some years ago, when a preacher preached in Waco, he said to his audience: "Oh, men, do not go on in the ordinary, commonplace way in the winning of souls. Go after a case difficult. Go after a case long neglected, preoccupied, too busy to

come to God; go after him." And when the sermon was done, another lawyer in the audience, himself a distinguished jurist and Christian citizen, gathered some men around him and said: "If three of you will join me, we will go after this great lawyer."

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Dr. George W. Truett

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Long after other publishers were forced to raise their prices, Sword of the Lord Publishers continued at the pre-war prices. For example, the editor's book, *When Skeletons Come Out of Their Closets*, has 191 pages and is bound in genuine cloth (not imitation cloth such as is used on many books). Before the war it was customary that books selling for \$1.00 should not be larger than 150 or 160 pages, except in reprints of older and very popular books. It was possible to sell such books cheaper because of the enormous quantity printed and because plates were already made. In fact, usually the printing itself was done years ago at much less than present-day costs. But standard publishers almost never printed new books of more than 160

pages even before the war for \$1.00. Now, in war time, such books sell for \$1.25 to \$2.00. Most new books printed under war time conditions selling for \$1.25 for from 90 to 128 pages.

Because the author took no royalty, and we made large printings, we were able to maintain our prices. But costs have steadily risen. Now some of these books must be reprinted, and in order to pay expenses we are compelled to raise prices. Books published by Sword of the Lord Publishers will still give more value for the money than those published by any other publisher in America, as far as we know.

The Sword of the Lord, when there were four pages weekly, was

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"Hast Thou Found Me, O Mine Enemy?"

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And now let us turn a little further over into the next chapter and begin with verse 34. Ahab and Jehoshaphat had gone out to war at Ramoth-gilead, against the king of Syria.

"And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel [that is Ahab] between the joints of the harness [a king wear harness? Yes, he had on a coat of mail, a great breastplate, and greaves over his legs, and a plate over his back. He even had his feet covered up. The only place where an arrow could get in is where the armor joined together. He could not be stiff all over. And there the arrow hit him between the joints of his harness.] wherefore he said unto the driver of his chariot, Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host [out of the army]; for I am wounded. And the battle increased that day: and the king was stayed in his chariot against the Syrians, and died at even: and the blood ran out of the wound into the midst of the chariot."

Now listen, God had said, "Where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth when you stoned him there at Jezreel, there the same dogs will lick the blood of Ahab." How can that happen when he was killed away over there at Ramoth-gilead? Let us read on.

"And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country. So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria. And one washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; and they washed his armour; according unto the word of the Lord which he spake."

That is a remarkable story. I cannot take time for the rest of it, but it came about that Jezebel, wicked, wicked Jezebel, was killed too, and God saw that it happened just as He said it would. Jehu said to two men about Jezebel as she looked out of a window, "Throw her down!" And they threw her down, and the dogs ate Jezebel, that wicked woman.

I want you to get this word of God. Here are blessed and eternal lessons that men must face. I want you to face them prayerfully as I speak.

Ahab Sold Himself to the Devil

Elijah, the prophet of God, said to Ahab, "I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord." Sin enslaves a man. If there is a man here who is not in touch with God, a backslider or a lost sinner, that man has sold himself to work evil. A man who is not right with God has sold out. That means just this. Judas Iscariot sold out, sold his influence, sold his soul. "I know where Jesus goes to pray, and for thirty pieces of silver, I will lead you out to the garden of Gethsemane, and the one I kiss, that will be

the one," he said. Judas sold himself and sold his eternal welfare. He sold his testimony. He sold that for the value of thirty pieces of silver.

Ahab also sold himself to work evil. A man that goes in sin has sold out for a little bit of pleasure, for the wild, dirty crowd that he runs with. He will break his wife's heart and lead his children in sin and make himself a slave for a little sinful pleasure. What do you mean by selling out to sin? I wish people would realize the awful enormity of sin. When a man turns loose to sin, he turns over control to demons.

You may not realize it, but this world is full of demons. The devil goes around like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Some men are possessed by devils now. Jesus said in the model prayer and taught us to pray, "And deliver us from evil." In the original Greek, He really taught us to pray, "Deliver us from the evil one," from Satan, and from the evil spirits around about us.

You say, "I feel impressed to do so and so." You feel the impression as if it were from God. You had better try it and see. If you have sold out, that may be a spirit of the devil that will lead you wrong. You may get into a fight or commit some sin, and then say, "Well, I felt led to do that." Look out! You may be led by evil spirits. Ahab sinned and sinned again and again and finally turned himself over to devils and to evil spirits to do the wickedness suggested by his wife. He sold himself out to work evil.

It is a bad thing to go on in sin. It is important that one not go in sin. Every one of you boys and girls should be saved while you are young, because the older you are, the more the devil binds you, the more he takes a mortgage on you. When you sell out to him, after awhile you are a slave and you cannot control yourself. Then your influence is not your own, your temper is not your own, and your thoughts are not your own. A man who goes on in sin cannot think the thoughts he wants to. A man who gambles may say, "All right, I will go back to work and be the same man." But something has happened to that man and work is not attractive any more. Working hard for \$4.00 or \$6.00 a day, that is too hard when one can get out and maybe make a lucky tip on a dog race or on "daily doubles" might get a thousand to one or a hundred to one, who knows? "I will try it," he says. Working is mighty slow going when you might get ten or fifteen dollars in a game of chance. Something happens to the man who gambles. He sells himself out to gambling. The devil takes possession of his heart, soul and spirit.

Somebody gets angry, and he thinks it is a little matter to get angry. It is never a little matter. You sell yourself out when you get angry. You sow your wickedness, and a lot of bitterness springs up in your heart and controls you. You may think when you get angry it will be over in a minute. But poison is distilled there. You are never the same as you were. Only God can take away the evil things when a man has sold himself to sin. The same is true about bitterness, malice, hate and unforgiveness. Do not allow them in your heart. That is the reason the Bible said, "Let

not the sun go down on your wrath." We ought to beware of the evil ones around about us.

Ahab sold himself to sin.

No girl here wants to become a harlot and lose her virtue, who wants to have heartache and heartbreak, who wants to fall into ruin. Then you had better not open one little gap for the devil! Do not drink the first glass of beer. Do not get on the dance floor. Do not run with the devil's crowd. Do not go with an unsaved man or even a backslidden Christian who will not live for God. Do not let down the bars in one particular. If you do, sin takes possession and you are a slave to sin.

Ahab was to be pitied. Yonder was a beautiful woman. The Bible says she was vain. Even when she was an older woman she was beautiful. When she heard that Jehu was coming, she "painted her face and tired her head." She was a beauty even then according to the way the world looks at it. She painted herself up. She did not know she was painting herself and dressing herself to be trampled under feet by the horses and to be eaten by the dogs and to have the dogs gnaw her bones. When Ahab married that woman, went with her to serve Baal, he sold out to sin!

It is a sad thing, Mr. Benavides, but many a person who comes before your court, a narcotic case, a drunk case, is a man who has intentions that are good, but he has inside him a lust, a weakness inside, an appetite inside him, a habit, a rut of character, a groove in his brain, something inside that has already sold him out. He has a traitor in his own gate. He has sold out to sin!

It is not that every man who comes before your court wants to be a sot drunkard, but if he sells to sin, sin enslaves him, and he is no more the man that he once was.

It is said that a Greek tyrant of a certain Grecian city was jealous of a man, a smith in his town who perhaps was not loyal to the king. He was known as a great blacksmith. This man was brought before the king, and the king said,

"I am told you can make a chain that no man can break."

The man said, "Yes."

"Well, make me one," the king said.

So he made a chain so well and welded every link so carefully (that was not easy to do then) that when he got through, he brought it back and held it up before the king and said,

"It is so strong that if it had an elephant on each end pulling in opposite directions, they couldn't break it."

The king said to one of his officers,

"Bind him with it."

So it is with sin. We make the chain that binds us and enslaves us as Ahab did when he let down the bars and gave himself away to sin and sold out.

Is there an unsaved man here? I would not trifle with God. I talked to a woman down at the zoo today who is unsaved. She said, "I am not ready yet? My friends, you trifle with our soul's salvation as if you thought you had forever to make a choice, as if you thought it did not matter and that tomorrow would be just as good. If your baby were dying with diphtheria, tomorrow would not be just as good for a serum. If you had a case of acute appendicitis, tomorrow would not be just as good to call the doctor. That might be too late. The man who opens his heart to sin and sells out to sin, tomorrow will be too late, perhaps, for him ever to be saved. I would not sell out like Ahab did. He sold himself to sin.

Sin is so hateful, so terrible, so enslaving, so pitiless, so merciless

Second Annual Colonial Hills Bible Conference

March 11th Through 18th

Many of our readers in the vicinity of Atlanta, Georgia, will be interested in the announcement of the Second Annual Colonial Hills Bible Conference sponsored by the Colonial Hills Baptist Church of East Point, Georgia, and The Radio Bible Class of Atlanta, of which Rev. Jesse M. Hendley is Pastor-director, to be held in the Colonial Hills Baptist Church from March 11th through the 18th.

Outstanding Speakers

Speakers on the program include, Dr. Paul Bauman, Vice-president of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles; Dr. Robert W. Bieber, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Bala Cynwyd, Penn.; Dr. John W. Bradbury, Editor of *The Watchman Examiner* national Baptist weekly, and nationally known Christian leader; Dr. Herschel W. Ford, Pastor, Southside Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; Rev. Jesse M. Hendley, Evangelist and pastor of the host church; Dr. Louis D. Newton, Pastor, Druid Hills Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., and outstanding Southern Baptist leader; Dr. John R. Rice, Evangelist and

Editor of *The Sword of The Lord*, Wheaton, Illinois; Dr. W. H. Rogers, Pastor, First Baptist Church, El Paso, Texas; Dr. E. C. Sheridan, Pastor, Curtis Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.; Rev. J. Stratton Shufelt, Evangelistic Song Leader and Soloist who will direct the music of the Conference; and Dr. Robert J. Wells, Evangelist and Associate Editor of *The Sword of The Lord*, Wheaton, Ill., Conference Director.

Conference Theme: "The Revival We Need—Today!" The messages will center around the Conference theme "The Revival We Need—Today!" It is hoped that the Lord will use the Conference to stir Christians to pray and plan for Revival, to take revival fires back to their homes and churches and in a practical way help America have the revival it needs—today! The Conference will be followed by a two week revival campaign, March 18-April 1, ending on Easter Sunday, under the direction of Dr. John R. Rice as evangelist and J. Stratton Shufelt as song leader.

that tonight I would hate it and flee from it and run to the Lord for mercy. Ahab, Ahab, you sold out to sin so that when Jezebel suggested a wicked thing, and your conscience said, "Ahab, this will involve the murder of a good man, an innocent man." You said, "Well, I am in it now. I have already married this woman, and I am going her way." He sold out to it and went ahead and had Naboth murdered for his vineyard. God booked up murder against Ahab, and God said,

"All right, you will meet it. Your blood will be licked by the dogs. Your family will be cut off. Every male member will meet a violent death."

"Well, all right, but I have already started out," Ahab said, "so I am going on."

Oh, do not sell out to sin! I would hate it and avoid it and run from it! Is there a man here who thinks, "What difference do a few drinks make?" My friends, it may mean the difference in ruin and success for your boy. A few drinks may mean that the happiness of your home will be shattered, and one day shame and disgrace and broken home and broken hearts will be yours. It may mean the difference between freedom and prison for something you did when you were drinking and did not know anything about it. It means the difference between the wrath of God and His mercy. Do not sell out to sin!

But you think sin is so cheap. You do not know all you buy when you sell out to the devil. You buy trouble and certain judgment and punishment. Do not do it!

Ahab's Sin Found Him Out

What else is told about this man? He said when Elijah came and faced him, "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" Elijah answered, "I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord." "I have found thee."

When we sin, we feel it is not such an important matter. The whole human race has a feeling that it is such a light matter to sin. The Bible says in Proverbs that the wicked woman commits adultery and then licks her lips and says, "I have done no evil." Oh, it is not a light matter.

Here is a man, this man Ahab, who said,

"I want that field for a vegetable garden. That vineyard of

Naboth's would make a fine place for early spring radishes and greens and onions. I could get everything fresh for the table down here. I will buy it or trade for it."

But Naboth said, "I can't sell it. It belonged to my father and my grandfather and my great-grandfather. I couldn't trade my vineyard and I couldn't sell it."

Ahab did not like that. When Jezebel said, "I will fix it for you," he let her do it. She said to the elders of the city, "Take this man Naboth and set him on high and get two men to swear that he blasphemed God and the king and have him stoned." They did it. Then Jezebel came to Ahab and said, "Now get up. Don't be turning your face to the wall. You have been missing your dinner, get up and eat, drink and be merry. I have everything fixed fine. They did what I told them to do and Naboth is dead. Go down and get the vineyard."

"Go down and get the vineyard." Do you think that is all there is to this? "Well," he might have said, "To be sure it is. Why not? I am king around here, am I not? I didn't do it anyway. The elders of his own city did it."

Oh, yes, my friend, I know you did not do it, but God knows you did do it in your heart. The things you think are hidden from everybody will one day come out. Murder will out!

Ahab went down to take his vineyard. On the way, he did not think about the widow left and the little children and that innocent blood that cried out to God Almighty from the ground. That did not bother him. He did not have any conscience about that at all. He was not bothered about that at all. But my friend, God witnessed it. I wish you could realize there is an all-seeing eye that knows and sees and records. As the negro people sing it, "My God's awritin' all the time." God is writing down in His book. Do not think you will get by. There will be the man of God to point

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EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE
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Evangelist Robert J. Wells
Associate Editor

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RICE-SHUFELT CLEVELAND CAMPAIGN

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\$10,000. That may seem to be enormous, but the giving is so generous that in the two services Sunday there was a total of over \$1,800 in offerings, just the usual plate offerings, taken with no more said about it than in ordinary church services. The entire amount is about raised, without any pressure whatever. That indicates, I believe, how greatly people have been blessed. In a city as large as Cleveland the expenses of a great auditorium, of newspaper advertising, etc., are necessarily large, if the entire city is to be reached, but it is never difficult to raise legitimate expenses if they are conscientiously handled, and if God blesses with great crowds and power.

Many Wonderful Examples of Salvation

The dear Lord has saved many, and how sweet it has been to see them come! I have each one who comes to Christ to come take my hand, and I ask why he comes, and try to make sure that each one is trusting in Christ for salvation before going into the inquiry room for further instruction and prayer and records, and that each backslider definitely confesses his backsliding and turns back to live out and out for Christ. Always I make the invitation clear. People who are unconverted lost sinners are to come to accept Christ as Savior, once for all; backsliders are to come confessing their sin to Christ and starting again to live for Him. I never ask people to "come for prayer" or those who "want more of God" in these evangelistic invitations. So the decisions, after my plain preaching, are definite. Then each person is personally shown the scriptures on salvation, and led into fuller assurance. Then a record is made on a card, stating whether the one who came is a new convert or whether, having been converted previously, he has fallen into sin and lived as a backslider and now returns to fellowship with his heavenly Father.

Sunday afternoon among the twenty-two coming forward was a Jew, a man perhaps forty-five. I said to him, when he took my hand; "Do you know that all of us are poor sinners who need salvation?"

He replied, "I know that I have been a big one!"

"Well Jesus Christ died to save you. He loves you. He is ready right now to forgive you and save you, if you are willing to accept and trust Him," I told him.

"I am ready right now!" he answered.

Then his wife was saved also, praise the Lord!

A large proportion of men are among those saved in each service.

One wife sings in the big choir who has been praying for her unsaved husband. He came the other night, but was offended when someone talked to him and planned not to come again. But he was so convicted that he came again and was wonderfully saved.

A man who came to Christ last Monday night said to me; "You said Sunday night that if one was still convicted it was sign he could be saved, that God was still calling. So I know God wants to save me, for I work at night and all night I could not keep my mind on my work, I was so convicted."

A pastor's wife invited her Sunday School class to her home for dinner, a class of 17 year old boys, then brought them all to the service with her. They sat in a long row, near the front. At the invitation I saw a good deal of consultation among the lads, much serious thinking obviously going on, Christian boys talking to others, the pastor's wife very quietly encouraging a little. Then one young fellow came to be saved, two others came as backsliders.

A young woman in West Cleveland Technical High School, I understand, asked a young man who was rather tough to come with her to the big auditorium. He was happily saved. Then he brought two of his high school pals and both were saved, and now the campaign is the talk of the High School, I am told.

A woman took another woman \$10.00 to pay back an old debt of \$5.00, long neglected, with interest, say; she had heard my radio messages on "Hindered Prayer" and must get her sin out of the way so God would answer her prayers.

A pastor here in Cleveland told me of a man in his church who was once a very useful leader. Eight years ago he became offended, opposed the pastor, lost out in the church work. Now after hearing me he was convicted and revived, went to his pastor with apologies and is entering again into the Lord's work happily. That is another evidence of a real moving of God's Spirit on many hearts.

We anticipate a great many conversions, an intensification of revival blessing these last six days. Saturday we plan a giant rally for children at 2:30 P.M. at the Music Hall. So we have a permit for a big parade of children, cars, a sound truck, banners, etc., led by a mounted escort of police and a Salvation Army band, all to lead the crowds to the Music Hall. Sunday Schools and Child Evangelism teachers and workers are working to get the greatest crowd possible for a simple gospel service with choruses, object lessons and a sermon.

Engagements of Rice-Shufelt Party

Next Mr. Shufelt and I go to Atlanta, to the Colonial Hills Baptist Church with Evangelist-pastor Jesse M. Hendley, for a great Bible Conference March 11-18. I will be there the last three days God willing.

Then we begin at once in Atlanta a great revival effort through April 1.

Then we go to Curtis Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga., Dr. Sheridan pastor, April 8-29.

May 1-13 we are to be at Fourth Baptist Church, St. Louis, with Dr. Oliver Shank, pastor. We earnestly covet your prayers.

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Personal Evangelism

(Continued from page one)

They knocked on that inner door, and it opened, and there was Judge Baker, deep in preparation of a serious case. He said: "How did you men get past my stenographer?" They said: "We did not see any stenographer." He said: "Gentlemen, there must be something very serious that brings you four men here." The great Christian lawyer made answer: "There is, Mr. Baker; the most serious matter in the world. I want first of all, to ask you to forgive me, that I have been such a poor Christian, that I have not talked with you more earnestly about Christ and His supreme claims, and your need of Him. But we have come, we four men, to ask if you won't cease all your procrastination, and if you won't for your own sake, and for Waco's sake, today yield yourself to Christ." And then the second man made his plea, and the third man said his say, and the fourth man made his appeal. Then the first man spoke again: "If you won't mind, let us kneel down and all of us be little children, and we will ask God to help you burn all the bridges, give up indecision and delay, and do the extraordinary thing—yield yourself right now to Christ." And down they went on their knees, and all four of them prayed, each for a moment. When they rose up Mr. Baker said: "Gentlemen, I cannot, will not, hold out against this. I do surrender to Christ. May God forgive me that I did not do it long ago. I do surrender to Christ. Oh, it is so unselfish for you four men, my friends, my neighbors, to come after me like this! I do surrender to Christ, now and forever."

Wasn't that glorious? A little while after that, I was in Los Angeles, speaking in the Temple Auditorium. And one morning I saw a sympathetic face, and when I had said the benediction, quickly he came to me. It was Waller Baker, and he said: "They have told you about what I did?" I said: "Oh, I know all about it, Mr. Baker. Thank God!" he said, "At last I am on the right road—at last!" He went on to San Francisco, and I returned to Texas.

That morning the daily papers chronicled the news that the evening before, as Mr. Baker was walking down the streets of San Francisco, he sank down from

heart failure, and a few moments later was dead.

When I read it, this was my first thought: What if four men had not gone to him as they did, a few weeks before, to win him to Christ? Oh, I am pleading that you, citizens and neighbors and friends, shall in the right spirit, link yourselves with God to guide you, and empower you, and go after these long neglected cases. Pass not one of them by.

I am beseeching you that you will combine with the other man, and you twain shall plead that promise of Jesus: "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven," and then go after men as our Lord commanded, "two by two!"

A Mother

I am thinking this moment of a timid mother, who came to my study, with her little eleven-year-old girl, to say to me, in modest but earnest sentences: "I have brought my little girl to talk with you about coming into the church next Sunday morning." Then I turned to the child, and sought as tactfully as I could, to elicit from her what she knew about Jesus. She told me a straightforward story. Her mother, the Saturday night before, had taken her aside, and with careful, prayerful words, had explained to the little daughter what being saved meant, and how a sinner is saved alone by Christ. The little girl said: "Mother, I will take Him right now for my Saviour," and her decision was given. With her eyes moist with tears the beautiful child, looking at her mother, said to me: "Mother won me to Christ Saturday night. When they were all away from home except mother and me, mother brought me to Christ."

Oh, I imagine that a legion of angels watched around that home, as the mother did the sublimest thing possible for a mother to do, when she pointed her child in the way of life. And the company of angels, I doubt not, hurried back to the starry heights above, to tell the hosts up there: "The kingdom is coming, because we saw and heard a mother teaching her child the way of life."

A Sunday School Teacher

One morning, just before I went into my pulpit to preach at the eleven o'clock hour, there was a

knock on my church study door. I opened it, and there stood a faithful Sunday School teacher. She had two of her boys, each about twelve or thirteen years of age, and she said: "Pastor, I should like for you to talk with these two boys. They think they would like to join the church this morning. I should like for you to question them, to see if they are ready for that great step."

And then I questioned them, and they were soon earnestly telling me, in answer to my question, how this Sunday School teacher had hunted them out, and had talked with them personally and alone during the past week, and how she had so explained the necessity and the happiness and usefulness of being a Christian, that they could not say no, and had said yes to Jesus.

They knew that He was the Saviour, and not somebody else, and not something else, and they were trusting alone in Him. Their way was clear, their confession beautiful, their knowledge of Jesus evident. They came into the church that day. How glorious that a Sunday School teacher understands: "I am a shepherd of souls, and I must watch as one who must give account, and I cannot, must not, dare not, ignore the highest claims of these in my class, namely, their spiritual needs."

A Friend

And then sometimes a friend goes out and wins his friend to Christ. Oh, what proof of friendship is comparable to that, where one person goes to another and in humble, careful, winsome, prayerful words, seeks to win that other to Christ, and succeeds! What finer proof of friendship than that!

A Wife

And how glorious when the Christian wife seeks ways, with all humility and diligence and prayerfulness to win her unbelieving husband to Christ! One of these unbelieving husbands, who hold out long and late against Jesus, said to me recently, when he came to talk to me about coming into the church: "Oh, sir, the tears, the very tears of my Christian wife haunted me, as she would say just a little to me about how she yearned for me to be a Christian, about how she prayed for me. She said just a little, but her very tears haunted me!"

(From the booklet, *Two Win One*, published by the Southern Baptist Convention in the crusade to win a million souls in 1945. Used by permission.)

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

(Continued from page one)

you would carry this application in mind that as a soul, now afar off spiritually speaking, dead in trespasses and sin, comes to one greater than Solomon, the Lord Jesus, the same seven steps apply to his coming and to his life as a Christian after he has come. It just seems to me that no matter where one may turn in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, one can find the wonderful gospel story, that gospel which is "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

Now with your pen or pencil I want you to jot these things down in the margin of your Bible and you will be able to review them and study them and meditate upon them in the days to come. That is the way you learn. You will not forget so easily. Now let's feast upon the riches here in this chapter. You know, I just love to take a chapter and put my finger on the words and just follow them down and stop when the Holy Spirit tells me to stop and just meditate upon those things

and compare Scripture with Scripture. That's the way you learn. I want to build up in the faith and never to be carried about by every wind of doctrine, tossed to and fro as little children.

Step One—She Heard

"Now, when the Queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon,"—here we have it. Underline the little word heard. Now, naturally the question arises, "what did the Queen of Sheba hear about Solomon?" Why, in I Kings the fourth chapter, and the thirtieth verse we read that his wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country and all the wisdom of Egypt. He was wiser than all men. Not only did she hear of his wisdom, but she heard of his great wealth, riches untold. And a little passage just a few verses on, we find that he received in one year, one billion, nine-hundred million dollars in gold into the treasury. My! that's a large sum of money, isn't it? Not only did he receive gold, but he had

precious stones. That temple of his that was built there costing several millions of dollars was made out of the richest of stones, the finest of material the quarries could give from miles around. My, it was a wonderful temple!

Well, "when the Queen of Sheba heard"—now check that point. Hearing is the beginning of all the blessings that one has in Christ Jesus. And so with the soul now in darkness that Christ was made unto him wisdom that is, He has all knowledge, and is wiser by far than all the wise men now living or who ever have lived. And as for riches, why, the riches of the world are in the hollow of His hand. He is, "greater than Solomon."

Notice, she heard. And I want to drive it home to you. Romans 10:17 says: "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." That is how faith comes. The moment you hear the

(Continued on page six)

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"Hast Thou Found Me, O Mine Enemy?"

(Continued from page two)

his finger in your face and say, "I have found you."

When Ahab got down there and saw Elijah, he said, "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" Elijah answered, "I have found you." My friend, hear me, as surely as there is a God, your sin will find you out. I know this is true. I know God is merciful, and God is kind, but our sin will find you out.

Naboth is dead. His wife was ignorant of the whole plot. His children do not know about it. The elders of the city knew of the wicked plot, but nobody will involve themselves. But it will come out. Murder will out! It is coming out, brother, it is coming! That is the reason the Bible teaches that that which was whispered in the corner shall be shouted from the housetops, and "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Let me press again on your heart as I have before, if one sin could get by unjudged, uncondemned, unpaid for; if one sin could get by God, that one sin would make a chaos out of God's universe and pull God from His throne and put out the glory of Heaven, ruin the angels, and take every soul out of God's hand. If Satan could make God one time a failure, if he could make God one time unjust and not able to take care of His own, not able to bring sin to judgment, Satan would have defeated God forever. No, my friends, listen to me, as certain as there is a God, your sin finds you out. If God had no witnesses but the dogs that licked the blood of Naboth, if He had had nobody to witness it but those dogs, those dogs would see that justice was

done. Those same dogs, in the same place they licked the blood of Naboth, will lick the blood of this wicked king, Ahab. How could that be? That is not hard for God to see to it.

I know a man who has gone far in sin. I know a man who has deceived thousands. But just as certain as there is a God, this man will meet judgment. One time the cry of innocent Christians misled by him, the cry of preachers he has abused and lied about and slandered will be heard and avenged. As surely as there is a God in Heaven, his sin will come out. One day he will say, "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" and God will say, "I have found you." My friend, listen to me. As certain as there is a God, sin must be paid for. I call on you today to hear me and take warning. Sin is a terrible thing, and what terrible things it brings! Sin admitted and confessed and forsaken God will have mercy about it, but when one goes boldly on his way with a proud, haughty, scornful heart, hearing no reproof, and turns his back on the preaching of the gospel, one day he will come like Ahab did and face a man of God and say, "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" And he will say, "I have found thee! I have found thee! I HAVE FOUND THEE!"

My friends, God brings sin to judgment. God brings sin to judgment. Your sin will find you out. Your chickens will come home to roost one day. Ahab met his own doom. "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" Hast thou found me?

That is very much like the case of David when he committed the

terrible sin with Uriah's wife. "That was bad, but that is in the past now," David thought. "I will not do that any more." But one day David's baby got sick. God's prophet Nathan came to David and said, "David, I know about a case down here, involving two fellows. One is rich and has a whole lot of sheep, and the other had but one ewe lamb. He petted it and treated it like a daughter, and carried it in his bosom. The rich man had a man come to see him one day, and he grabbed his neighbor's lamb and roasted that. He took the poor man's lamb for that visitor. The rich man had plenty for himself, but he took the pet lamb of his neighbor's."

David said, "That man has to die. He is not fit to live. But before he is killed, he will have to restore four fold. Take four lambs and give those to the other fellow."

Nathan said, "David, you are the man. God says to you, 'I gave you your master's kingdom Saul's kingdom. I gave thee thy master's wives unto thy bosom. And if that were not enough I would have done thus and so. Here Uriah was a good man spending his life and willing to die for you, and you took his wife and led her into sin and sent him down and got him killed! David, God has not forgotten.'"

"Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? Hast thou found me?" "Yes," God says, "I have found you." Your sin will find you out.

Ahab went to battle. A prophet said to him,

"You are going to die."

"Oh, is that so?" Ahab said!

He got out among the other folks, took off his kingly robes and disguised himself as a common soldier. The Syrians said "Don't smite anybody but the king of Israel." Ahab thought he could cheat God. He dressed like a common soldier, and got Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, to wear his royal robes so he would look like a king. Ahab had on the clothes of a common soldier. Nobody could tell he was a king. The Syrians began shooting at Jehoshaphat, thinking that he was Ahab until Jehoshaphat cried out. Someone said, "That is the king of Judah, let him alone." One man saw Ahab, disguised, at a distance and said, "Say, I believe I can hit that guy over yonder." So he drew his bow at the fellow. He did not know he was the king, but he said, "I believe I will try to hit that Israelite." So he pulled back the bow and turned loose. Yonder the arrow sped to the mark and hit the only place it could do any harm. Underneath the common garments was a coat of mail, and the arrow hit between the joints of the armor. Ahab said, "Get me to one side, I am wounded. Drive out to one side." So someone drove the chariot out there, and Ahab propped himself up in the chariot for awhile. But after awhile, about sundown, he died. The blood formed a pool in the rich chariot of the king. The blood matted and coagulated on the floor of that chariot as there flowed out the life blood of the wounded king. It was a just retribution for the blood of Naboth who was slain just because a wicked man wanted a vegetable garden.

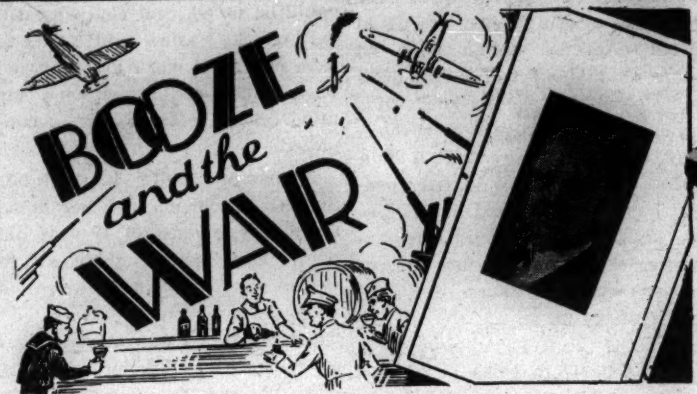
A man blew a trumpet and said, "Every man to his own city and to his own house. The battle is over. The king is dead."

A man drove the chariot home, back to Samaria. To clean out the chariot he drove down to the pool and washed out that clotted blood, washed off the king's armor, and then the same dogs out there where Naboth not long before had been killed and the blood run down from that innocent head as they knocked him in the head with stones to please a wicked king, those same dogs came as the men washed the

chariot and lapped up the blood of wicked Ahab! His sin found him out, and your sin will find you out.

Was that just an accident? It was not an accident with God. The man who shot the arrow did not know he was shooting at the king, and he did not know he would hit him between the joints

of his armor. But God did it. My friends, I have come to this conclusion: if a man is right with God, he need fear no man. Every arrow will fall short. If a man is not right with God, even if a man pull a bow at a venture, it will strike between the joints (Continued on page six)



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Chapter 3

BOOZE—THE BREEDER OF VENEREAL DISEASE

Soon after the establishment of military camps as a defense measure, General George C. Marshall, chief of staff, broadcast appeal to the American public concerning questionable civilian activities and rent profiteering in the areas of troop concentrations. In that talk he declared:

Establishments for the purpose of selling liquor are becoming increasingly active in the communities adjacent to the camps and in some communities there has been an influx of persons of questionable reputation.

Here we have on the one side a sordid business for the accumulation of money, and on the other the interest of every parent in the United States who has a son in the Army.

The General was talking about gambling, vice, prostitution, booze,

boodle rings and the class that is associated with these. He called it a "sordid business for the accumulation of money." That is the best characterization I ever read of the liquor business and its associated enterprises. "A sordid business for the accumulation of money," it is without character or merit. It is a leech, a parasite, a bloodsucker. Breweries and distilleries are built, beer joints and package stores are operated, liquor is sold not to benefit or help humanity, but to make money. Shoe factories benefit those who use their products. Dairies benefit the public by their product. Mills and clothing-manufacturing establishments merit their continuance in that they serve a public need. The world would be poorer without them.

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But not so with breweries and distilleries and booze joints. Their existence and operation cannot be justified by their products. The booze industry is a "sordid business" for the accumulation of money."

General Marshall declared that this "sordid business" militated against the best interests of "every parent in the United States who has a son in the Army."

Veneral disease is the scourge of every army. American casualties in World War I from this scourge closely paralleled the losses in actual combat. We have also had to battle this formidable enemy in World War II.

Dallas, Texas

Headquarters for the Eighth Service Command, comprising five southwestern states, is located in Dallas, Texas. Maj. Gen. Richard Donovan, in charge of it at the time, issued this statement on February 5, 1943: "The soldier sick with venereal disease constitutes the most serious and continuing health problem that confronts the Army."

Louisville, Kentucky

The Louisville Courier Journal in an article describing the sordid conditions there on pay-day night said:

On the night of the last pay day the soldiers began to drift in shortly after dark. They obviously were quite thirsty and willing to take chances with their money at the blackjack and poker tables.

New arrivals filled the various dives within a short time. The drinking increased and with it the boisterous gaily grew until practically all the men in uniform were definitely in some stage of drunkenness by midnight.

It cannot be stated too strongly that venereal diseases, on the scale reported from Fort Knox, are a grave menace to the defense program.

The triple evil of gambling, drinking and venereal disease was what General Marshall was speaking of when he said it was a "sordid business for the accumulation of money" and that it was against the best interests of every parent in the United States with a son in the Army.

Columbus, Georgia

Fort Benning is located near Columbus, Georgia, and Phoenix City, Alabama. Vice was so prevalent there at one time that there was a national scandal and the governor of Alabama corrected the situation. Newspaper reports of the situation declared:

Unscrupulous and greedy proprietors have quickly set up shady establishments designed to take the soldier's pay with maximum efficiency and minimum regard for the soldier's welfare.

The real fifth columnists of the community are the women camp followers who filter into town on pay days, do their deadly work in silence, and then thumb their way back home till the next pay day rolls around. And the extent of their operations will be known only when the monthly medical reports are compiled.

Time and space forbid that I quote all the similar examples. Reports have come from Columbia, South Carolina, from Macon, Georgia, and many other camps across the nation. The newspapers in their discussion of the Fort Benning situation aptly declared:

The problem revealed so starkly in communities near Fort Benning is very evident around every large camp.

Booze—the Breeder of Vice and Venereal Disease

Parasites must have breeding places. Vice and venereal disease are spawned in the night clubs, beer taverns, honky-tonks, and roadhouses that rim our military reservations. They provide the meeting place for the Army man and the woman. Alcohol weakens self-control and stimulates unholy desires. Dr. Hubley R. Owen, director of public health of Philadelphia, has declared:

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The matter of intoxication of servicemen with respect to venereal disease control is of double importance. In the first place, an intoxicated soldier is less apt to resist the advances of the prostitute or the promiscuous girl. In the second place, he is unable to follow out prophylactic procedures when not in full possession of his faculties. Reports received from both the Army and the Navy indicate that the majority of exposures leading to venereal infection among servicemen occurred when the servicemen had had too much to drink. (Union Signal, February 26, 1944).

United States Navy Commander Clarence J. Buckley, venereal disease control officer of the Fourth Naval District, speaking in Philadelphia on February 7, 1944, to the Conference on Social Hygiene, said:

A survey during the past ninety days shows that 58 per cent of the social disease contacts of sailors and marines here could be traced to taprooms. A survey of the past year showed that 75 per cent could be traced to these places. They are a major problem.

The Reader's Digest last year published an article by Gene Tunney, former heavyweight boxing champion of the world and now head of the Navy's physical training department, concerning the spread of venereal disease among our armed forces. He showed that eleven out of every thousand of our draftees became infected with syphilis and forty out of every thousand became infected with gonorrhea after being drafted. He cited as an example three women who infected one hundred and fourteen soldiers in one day. He emphasized the fact that servicemen on leave turn to liquor and wild women; the roadhouses and juke joints provide a handy meeting place; and that the man under the influence of alcohol is an easy prey for the prostitute and will not observe the precautions prescribed by the army.

It is well to remember that Mr. Tunney is not a preacher, temperance leader or prohibition worker. He drew the fat salary of \$35,000 per year from the American Distilling Company prior to his service in the Navy. Certainly what he thinks, says or writes would not be prejudiced.

"Victory Girls"

At the beginning of our national defense program, 75 per cent of venereal infection among our servicemen was by professional prostitutes, but as time has passed it has degraded the teen-age girls. Dr. Russel Teague, chief of the State Department of Health, venereal disease control division, of the State Department of Health in Kentucky, says that 90 per cent of venereal infection among soldiers is caused by "so-called 'victory girls' who give freely of themselves."

Michael F. Morrissey, of Indianapolis, president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, speaking in White Plains, New York, on July 27, 1944, was quoted by the Associated Press as follows:

Khaki-wacky pickup girls are responsible for 92 per cent of venereal disease infection among servicemen. Professional prostitutes are now responsible for only 8 per cent compared with 80 per cent a few years ago. The real problem is the so-called promiscuous girl.

Harry T. Brundidge, writing in the Cosmopolitan for February, 1944, on the subject "Home-Front Casualty List," and telling about a ten-thousand-mile inspection tour he made across the nation investigating juvenile delinquency, says:

I saw hundreds of these girls, from thirteen up, cute in short skirts and blouses, hair bows and saddle oxfords, but lipstick and rouged like their professional sisters, roaming the streets, awaiting the first "Hiya, babe!" from any uniform to be picked up.

I saw scores of them in bus and railway stations, in two, three and four. Some—kid camp followers from all over the nation—were awaiting their "men." Others kissing their

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Time to Send in Monthly Reports

"... and to make regular monthly reports to the Directors of the Club on the forms provided for this purpose." So reads a part of the Soul Winner's Pledge to which all applicants for membership had to affix their signatures before being accepted as regular members of the Soul Winner's Club. The monthly reports are to be sent in as close to the first of the next month as possible. Since it is now past the first of March, all February reports should be on

temporary sweethearts good-bye, remained in the station to meet incoming trains and busses and pick up new sweethearts.

Here is what he wrote regarding the relation of this condition to the drinking places:

In the business section, as shadows lengthened, I saw retail liquor stores, bars, taverns and cocktail lounges, from the exclusive spots in name hotels to the very worst dives, crowded with uniforms, teen-age girls, and well-dressed women with rings on the third fingers of those left hands.

I saw scores of teen-age girls introduced to men by bartenders and cappers. At half-past four in the morning, when the bars and taverns finally spewed the wreckage into the streets, teen-age boys and girls made sloppy love on garbage cans and newsstands; scores of others found the darkness of store entrances and alleys, while others staggered toward cheap hotels or park benches.

My friends, there is not the slightest doubt but that the night clubs, cocktail lounges, beer taverns, roadhouses, juke joints and other booze dives have been the greatest health hazard to the armed forces of America as well as the breeding places of civilian crime, juvenile delinquency, and all types of vice, immorality and iniquity.

We have bewailed present-day adult and juvenile delinquency.

We have stormed and thundered about growing youthful crime.

We have had "nightmares" and "day horses" because of the debauchery of the young girls of the nation.

We have piously wailed about the illegitimate birthrate.

But what have we done to correct the situation?

Breeding Places Unmolested

We have formed teen-age clubs, established reading rooms, built U.S.O. centers, opened church recreational parlors, operated "feeds," "soups," entertainments and socials; but we have left the breeding places of this juvenile delinquency, prostitution and disease unmolested.

The night clubs, cocktail lounges, beer bars, roadhouses and juke joints have continued to spew and spawn crime and debauchery.

This is like pouring gasoline on a fire with a can and trying to put it out by throwing water on it with a spoon.

This is like trying to empty a leaky boat of its water with a knitting needle.

This is like trying to rid your henhouse of mites without cleaning and fumigating the roosting poles and egg nests.

This is like trying to cure fever without killing the mosquitoes or draining the swamps.

Clean out the breeding places! Get rid of the booze dives!

(The above is one of eleven articles which you may have all in one 64 page pamphlet entitled BOOZE AND THE WAR for 50c. Order from Sword of the Lord Publishers, 145 N. Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois, or from Zondervan Publishing House, 845 Ottawa Street, N. W., Grand Rapids. You may hear Dr. Sam Morris week day mornings, 6:15 a.m. over radio WHAS, Louisville, Kentucky, 840 on your dial—"a clear channel station which blankets the nation.")

the way to the Directors of the Club without delay. Even though you may have been a member for only part of the month, you should make out a report on that part of the month which began with the day you received your membership card. Let us have your report as soon as possible so that we may compile the totals and inform the membership of the Club of the progress being made.

Each member is provided with two monthly report forms so that when you send your report in for February you will still have a form for the month of March. Upon receipt of your February report, we will mail you another form for April and you will thus always be supplied.

Make Note of Special Problems

The Directors of the Soul Winner's Club are anxious to help you solve your personal soul winning problems. As you deal with people about their souls you will no doubt come across some difficulties with which you will need some help. Every member of the Club is entitled to this special service and it is our desire to have you write us freely about such matters. Perhaps, because of our experience, we will have the answer to your problems. Then with that assistance, you may be able to go back to the person who first presented the difficulty and lead him to Christ. We are anxious to be of help wherever we can and trust that you will not hesitate to write us fully explaining your needs.

The other day I was reading a word by Evangelist Hyman Appel in his book "God's Answer To Man's Sin" that I would like to pass on to you.

The Worth of a Soul Winner

"Do you want to be a soul-winner? Do you want to be a savior? Do you want to have the privilege of leading precious souls to Jesus Christ, the greatest privilege God can give to man? Why, the angels in heaven covet and envy the joy and opportunity of telling the story of Christ and bringing men and women and children to Jesus Christ. Why, folks, the humblest Christian in this town who is a saint, a soldier, a savior, who is trying to win the lost; the humblest Christian in this town is doing more for God, more for Christ, more for the world, than

all the presidents, all the kings, all the educators, all the legislators, all the philosophers, all the philanthropists, this world has ever seen put together. One immortal soul is worth more than all the world beside." May God grant that each member of the Soul Winner's Club may be a real winner of souls! It is indeed the greatest privilege in the world.

Extra Application Blanks Now Available

If you are interested in getting your friends to join the Soul Winner's Club we will be happy to provide you with additional Membership Application Blanks containing the Soul Winner's Pledge and the other information necessary for those who would like to unite with the Soul Winner's Club. Why not write in for several and get your friends to work with you in this greatest of all activities for the Lord? Remember to address all your mail about the Soul Winner's Club to: The Soul Winner's Club, 214 W. Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

How to Become a Member

Anyone who can heartily agree with the Soul Winner's Pledge and will sign it and the application blank below, enclose the same together with \$1.00 for the big Soul Winner's Pack, and mail to the Directors, will receive by return mail a membership card, the report forms, together with the tracts and booklets contained in the "Pack" the total retail value of which is \$2.00, and will be entitled to all of the privileges enjoyed by members of the Soul Winner's Club.

—Cut out and mail today—

THE SOUL WINNERS CLUB
214 W. Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

The Soul Winner's Pledge

"With God's help, I will earnestly endeavor to be a real soul winner from this day forth. I promise the Lord to read my Bible daily, to live a life of separation from the things of the world, to spend at least one-half hour daily in prayer, to regularly and prayerfully deal with needy souls in an attempt to lead them to Christ and into a victorious Christian life, and to make regular monthly reports to the directors of the club on the forms provided for this purpose.

(Signed).....

"I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all his people"—Psa. 116:14.

Enclosed please find \$..... for the Soul Winner's Pack and Enrollment in the Soul Winner's Club.

Name

Address

"... he that winneth souls is wise."—Prov. 11:30.

PRICES ADVANCE MAY 1

(Continued from page one)

sold at \$1.00 a year. Even before the increase of publishing costs due to the war, the \$1.00 subscription price barely covered expenses. Now the paper has been increased to eight pages weekly, and it is impossible to maintain the present subscription price and pay the increased costs for labor and printing. Hence May 1st the subscription price for *The Sword of the Lord* will be \$1.50 a year. \$2.00 in Canada. We are sure that our readers will understand. In fact, compared to other Christian periodicals, the price of *The Sword of the Lord* will still be most reasonable.

The new prices on cloth bound books are as follows:

Twelve Tremendous Themes, 177 pages, present price \$1.00. New price May 1st, \$1.25.

When Skeletons Came Out of Their Closets, 191 pages, present price \$1.00. New price May 1st, \$1.25.

The Ruin of a Christian, 178 pages, present price \$1.00. New price May 1st, \$1.25.

"And God Remembered..." 123 pages, present price 75c. New price May 1st \$1.00.

Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives and Women Preachers, 91 pages, present price 75c, new price May 1st \$1.00.

FOR THE PRESENT WE WILL NOT ANNOUNCE AN INCREASE IN PRICE ON THE BOOK PRAYER-ASKING AND RECEIVING. IT REMAINS AT \$1.50.

Although this book has 328 pages, we hope that the enormous circulation will enable us to continue this low price. A new printing of 20,000 copies is now being prepared to add to the 40,000 already published.

At present we will not announce any changes in prices of paper covered books, though some changes will be necessary soon. For example, the attractive 10c (Continued on page eight)

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

(Continued from page three)

gospel story, the Holy Spirit applies that word and faith begins to work in the soul once darkened, alienated and cut off from the life which is in Christ Jesus. That word begins to move and do something.

Well, what did she hear about? She heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord. Now, have you heard about His wonderful name, the name of the Lord Jesus? "His name shall be called Wonderful." He was wonderful as a man. Never man spake as He did while He walked here on earth; and wonderful as the Saviour led to Calvary's cross as a lamb dumb before his shearers, He never opened His mouth; wonderful as God, the eternally existing One—the One that could turn the water into wine, who could raise the dead from the grave, who could take the five loaves and two fishes and break them and multiply them so that the disciples could take them to the multitudes, and five thousand, were fed; wonderful that He is now interceding for us at the right hand of the Father, ever living to make intercession; wonderful that He is coming some day in power and in great glory.

Well the Queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord.

Step Two—She Came to Prove Him

And she not only heard of Him and His greatness, but she determined to come to him and put him to the test. Now, friend of mine, it is not enough just to hear of Christ—you must come to Him and trust Him as your personal Saviour. You have heard how He is not only able but willing to save you and you should come to Him now for salvation.

Notice, and she came to prove him with hard questions. That is the second point. Faith without works is dead. She not only heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, but she came to prove him with hard questions. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices. Faith, without works is dead. She was showing her faith by her works. Why, I do not know how long the time intervened between the time when she heard about Solomon and the time she came, but somehow I have the feeling that the moment that she heard about his fame that she had that great train of camels prepared, with servants, and all that was necessary for that long arduous trip, that dusty, hot trip from Ethiopia up to Palestine. It took

a good many days, it was a hard trip, but she was bound and determined in her heart to see this great man called Solomon. And some of you have heard about the wonderful Saviour, you have heard about His dying on Calvary's cross for you, but have you come? That's the point. Have you come to the Lord Jesus? He says, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Come now, and let us reason together," saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." You have heard but you haven't taken the next step. Now you can keep on hearing the gospel for ages and not be saved unless you come in appropriated faith. She came, showing the moving power of faith in the word of God. Noah did some work back in the golden days. "He being warned of God was moved with fear and prepared an ark for the saving of his house."

Now, notice, she came to prove, to test him with hard questions. Perhaps you have come to the Saviour and to prove Him you are saying to Him, "How is it that my sins like scarlet can be as white as snow?" And God says, "Now let us reason together. I laid your sins upon my beloved Son on Calvary's cross. Now you are free, as though you had never sinned, and you are justified by faith and you have peace with Me." And then you ask, "How can the sin question be dealt with and done away with?" And back comes the answer, "Without shedding of blood is no remission." You might ask the question how to walk pleasing to God. Well God says, "Present your bodies a living sacrifice." Then you might have other questions "after this. Well let me tell you something, the answer to any question that you might raise can be found in the Word of God after you have come to the Lord Jesus. I don't care what question you can propound in the line of spiritual things, I can tell you that you can find your answer in the Word of God. And all your questions will be answered if you come to Jesus.

Step Three—She Had Fellowship With Him

Now, the third step we find here in the second verse. I want you to see the growth of a soul. She came, and now watch how that soul grows in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. How gently the Holy Spirit leads a soul! Notice that in the second verse "And when she had come to Solomon she communed with

him of all that was in her heart." You could change that from communed to fellowship. She communed with him of all that was in her heart. That word communion is the same as fellowship. We walk and have fellowship, communion, with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ doth continually cleanse us from all sin. And our fellowship, our communion, is with the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. Now she communed with him by telling him all that was in her heart.

Beloved, there is the secret, in the secret place of the closet just to kneel before God and commune with Him and tell Him all that is in your heart. Is there some sin question that needs to be dealt with? Confess your sin. Is there something that you need to do to be obedient to the Word? Tell Him all about it. Are you victorious over sin in your life, or are you a defeated Christian? Tell God all about it and like Mary of old, sit at His feet and learn how to have that fellowship and communion, to dwell in the secret place and abide under the shadow of the Almighty. She communed by telling him all that was in her heart, and there is the secret of a Spirit-led, Spirit-empowered life.

Step Four—She Understood

Notice the third verse. After she communed with him Solomon told her all her questions and there was not anything hid from the king which he told her not. Beloved do you see it? Her questions were all answered after she came. First she heard, then she came to prove him, and then she saw.

We will have to hurry down to verse 4. "And when the Queen of Sheba had seen all of Solomon's wisdom and the house that he had built . . .", the next thing is, she saw. Her eyes were opened. Now Paul prays in the Ephesian prayer as follows—and so many Christians are like Lazarus, when he came forth from the grave with resurrection life he still had the grave clothes on and a napkin over his eyes. He had resurrection life, victorious life, but he couldn't see a thing, and they had to take the napkin from his eyes. And Paul prays in Ephesians 1:18. "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened,"—take off the grave clothes of the old life that ye might see these things—"that ye may know what is the hope of his calling and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power."

Step Five—She Praised

And when she saw—notice—"had seen all of Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built," etc., she said, "Ah, why the half was not told me." And when you have your spiritual eyes enlightened by the Holy Spirit whose work it is to reveal, to teach, and to enlighten, you will exclaim with the Queen of Sheba of old, "The half has not been told me!"

I must hasten and give you the other three points. My prayer is that God will enable you to see eternal things. In verse 5 notice what she saw. "She saw the meat of his table, the great provision for those in his household; she saw the sitting of his servants," she saw no confusion, she saw the standing of his ministers and their apparel—and will you check one little word there in the fifth verse, "And his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord." And that means the burnt offerings—sacrifices. She learned that the way of atonement was by the shed blood of the Lamb without spot and without blemish, by the way of the burnt offering.

Step Six—She Gave

An then in verse 10 of the chapter, she gave the King a hundred and twenty talents of gold; three million, six hundred thousand dol-

lars of gold! Ah, that is nothing compared to your soul which God wants you to present. And He said, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice," and you can't put money value upon it. It will be greater than the Queen of Sheba ever gave unto King Solomon. He is asking you to do it right now. "All the gold or worldly goods you may possess is not as valuable as your life, and that is what He is asking you to give right now. And you can afford to do it. You cannot out-give God for, notice what it says, "And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked"—and whatsoever we ask in faith believing, we shall have—"besides that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty."

Step Seven—She Witnessed

"So she turned and went to her own country." She returned. Listen to me—I can see the Queen of Sheba going back to that country—My!—telling everybody in every place where she stopped about King Solomon and all of

his glory! And if you come to the Lord Jesus and have communion with Him, and have presented your body as a living sacrifice—listen—you can't stop until you tell every soul around, within the sound of your voice. "She returned" back to her country, and you will go back to your country back to your former associates and you will witness unto the Lord Jesus in all of these things. Do you see the growth in grace? Do you?

Oh how thankful we are for this little cameo, this little picture of the gospel, tucked away here in the Old Testament: how the Queen of Sheba heard, came, communed, understood, praised, gave and then returned to her own country to testify of him. And how the King sent her back with more gifts, and that's the way the Lord always does. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." And He sends out His riches untold by the Holy Spirit. And the gifts that we give are nothing compared to what He gives us. May all who have heard the word, come, and commune, and grow.

"Hast Thou Found Me, O Mine Enemy?"

(Continued from page four)

of his harness where he least expects it. No man is safe out of God's sweet will, in disobedience to God. Pleasing God, every man is perfectly safe. All may pull their bows in vain when God surrounds a man, but when God withdraws His hand, your blood will run out for the first man who draws a bow at a venture from afar off. My friend, sin finds you out. Do not let this slip out of your mind: you sin, your sin, YOUR SIN will find you out, just as certain as it did King Ahab. YOUR SIN WILL FIND YOU OUT!

God's Prophets Are Not the Enemies of Sinners

Did you notice that the king said, "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" There are those who believe preachers are their enemies. In the case of Moses, the people murmured against God and against Moses and said, "Why have you brought us out to die in the wilderness, to let us and our children starve?"

Moses went to God and said, "Oh God, they are about to stone me thinking I am their enemy. They hate me. Oh, God, what shall I do?" The people thought Moses was their enemy, a good man like Moses! Even Aaron and Miriam and a bunch of others said, "Moses takes too much authority. Moses is our enemy." He was not their enemy.

One time when the people grumbled against God and against Moses, God sent fiery serpents among them that bit them and much people of Israel died, the Scripture said. The people saw their mistake when they began to die like flies. Do you know what they did? They came to Moses and said, "Moses, pray for us." A preacher is not your enemy if he is a good preacher and honest with God. The preacher stirs deep down in your heart. You are a sinner and he preaches about your

sin. You think he preaches too plainly. He is not your enemy. I preach sometimes on the dance and kindred subjects. Sometimes mothers say I talk too plainly before the young people. How little they know that the young people among themselves talk more plainly than I do.

Somebody says, "That preacher doesn't believe as I do. He gets after my sin. He is against me. He is my enemy." If you only knew it, Ahab, the best friend you have is this old hairy prophet, Elijah! This prophet would lead you back to God and lead the people out of sin and keep them from captivity and from the wrath of God which is upon them and upon you. "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" It is a sad thing for people to believe that a preacher is their enemy. But so often that is true. That ought not to be so. It is sad when people on the outside think preachers are their enemy.

Moses loved people so. He led them out of Egypt and wept and prayed before God to keep God from destroying them. Yet they thought he was their enemy.

Paul went before the Sanhedrin and preached Christ. One commanded another to slap him in the face. Everywhere Jews hated Paul. Yet he said, "I could wish myself accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsman according to the flesh." All that love and yet they hated him! Though they would have killed him, he loved them.

A preacher is not your enemy, my friends. I wish I were known as a friend of sinners. Jesus was. I wish I were known as one who loves people who are in trouble, loves people who are in sin.

I have been moved recently by several remarkable services we have had in the jail. My heart went out to those men in jail. At first they were suspicious. They hear a good deal of preaching.

BOOKS EASY TO LOAN



ALL our books have been easy to loan and have caused many discussions, but "STOPPING THE STORK" is breaking our records. Don't take one to the Sewing Circle if you expect to get work done. We have a letter from a prominent church leader saying, "It's a hum-dinger." One evangelist ordered 20 and immediately ordered 40 more. Sent postpaid for 2 dimes. Send a dollar bill and we will mail it with any 4 other books, as:

"MISTAKES GOD DID NOT MAKE," "MAN, THE HARNESS MAKER," "DUST AND DEITY," "EASTUS AGUSTUS EXPLAINS EVOLUTION," "ALIBI, LULLABY, BY-BY," "JOCKO-HOMO HEAVENBOUND," "PUDDLE TO PARADISE," "TOADSTOOL AMONG THE TOMBS," "GEE-HAW OF THE MODERN JEHU," and if you want a surprising exposure of the Rutherford "Witnesses," get "SEVEN THUNDERS OF MILLENNIAL DAWN."

The new book, "EAGLE WINGS," is just off the press. It is designed to help believers who seek a happier Christian experience. One chapter is devoted to praying for what is not wanted, and there is an illustrated parable, "The Stonecutter's Blunder," that may well provoke discussion.

Each book is 20c. Any 5 for \$1. Any 10 for \$2. If you will sell, loan, or give them away, you may have 10 of one kind for \$1. To get you started, we offer 5 each of 2 kinds for \$1. Five each of 4 kinds for \$2. All books are sent postpaid. Be a Book Missionary. Send books to boys in camp. For the price of a big spoonful of ice cream you may save the faith of someone. If you do not know that these books are unusual, send 2 dimes for one and be convinced.

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Brother Grady, I have found as I have gone down there in recent times, that God has opened their hearts. They say, "Let Brother Stroh sing so and so." They ask for certain numbers. What touched my heart was those seventeen, eighteen, nineteen and twenty year old boys lined up on the second floor. Some of them frankly let the tears run down their faces as they leaned on their elbows against the bars and listened as I preached. A preacher is not your enemy. He ought to be the friend of all sinners. Oh sinners, we ought to condemn sin. I must be against liquor and lewdness and wickedness in every form, and I ought to say so. But I ought to go out to weep over sinners. You can not be like Jesus unless you do that. I am not your enemy. I am your friend.

If the home of anybody here gets broken up, I hope you will come and ask me to pray. I will be glad to. A woman asked me the other day, "Will you write my husband. I want him to come to see me. I want to get things patched up. Pray about it." I did write him. I was glad to do it. I wanted to be a blessing. I have gone to those in heart-break and trouble to tell them if there is anything I could do, I would like to.

My friend, the preacher is not your enemy.

"Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" That is not what he ought to have said to this preacher. He should have said, "Pray for me. I have sinned against God."

I wish you would run with preachers. Come to my house or to my office to see me, sinner. Let me help you.

A girl came this morning, a grown young woman, and sat back there. When I went back to shake hands, she said, "I certainly enjoyed the service this morning." I asked her if she were a Christian, and she said,

"No."

"Did you ever make a start for the Lord?"

She said, "I have never been saved."

It was just a little bit until she was saved and was glad to tell me. I am glad you come to the service. Why run away from Christians? Do you not know that anybody who loves you and prays for you is not your enemy? Why, a Christian is not your enemy. I will tell you what I would do. If I were not a Christian, or if I had been saved but had gone a long way off, I would look up anybody who loves God and ask him to pray for me. Do you want help and encouragement? I wish you would! I wish you would seek me out and tell me you want my prayers. Oh, how glad I would be to help you!

I remember a time a long time ago when I was twelve or thirteen years old. I had been contented when I was nine. My father discouraged me and other people had. I did not live for the Lord and I thought I was a lost sinner. I went those sad years, I had no joy, no peace. My father was busy, though a mighty good man. One day old Brother Perry Harmonson preached. He said, "Anybody here who wants help come and shake hands and tell me you want me to pray for you." I did. I went when the service was over and said, "Brother Harmonson, pray for me." That old country preacher said, "I will, John. Will you pray for yourself?" I agreed to do it. When I got home I went

out in the lot, under the buggy shed and prayed. Then beside my bed I prayed again. Then I thought, "If Jesus died for me, why should I have to beg God to save me? If Brother Harmonson wanted me saved, surely God does. Maybe God has already forgiven me. I will turn it over to Him and go to bed and to sleep." I found out that away back yonder when I was nine I had gotten forgiveness, and I went on my way rejoicing. You ought not to think a man of God is your enemy. He is not. Brother Harmonson was not my enemy, but my best friend.

Sinner, God Is Not Your Enemy

If I said that about preachers, how much more ought I to say it about God. "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" God is not your enemy. God loves men, and men think God is their enemy! Jesus came and died and poured out His blood for sinners. Yet sinners think He is their enemy! Some of you never mention His name unless you do it with a dirty oath. Your enemy? No, He is the best friend you ever had. He sought you and loved you and wept over you and died for you. He sent His spirit to plead with you. No, He is not your enemy. He loves you. He is my friend. He is not my enemy. When Adam sinned, he thought, "God will hate me." He could not face God, but ran away and hid himself in the bushes. That was not the thing to do. He ought to have said, "God is the One who made me. He is the One who loves me. Everybody else might go against me, but God loves me." He ought to have run to God, but he ran from God and thought God was his enemy. Afraid of God!

Brother Cunningham, if I have sinned, I am not to say, "God is my enemy, I will get away, away from God." But I ought to say, "God loves me. He is the best friend I have. He is my Father, and Jesus died for me. I will run to Him for help." Do it. He will help you!

Ahab sinned. Ahab led Israel to sin. Ahab sold himself to sin. He and Jezebel killed the Lord's preachers, and murdered another innocent man; but Ahab, God is your friend!

Tell every sinner you meet, go out and find sinners and tell them God loves them though they have gone far in sin. Tell them Jesus died for them. Sinner, you ought to know it. We Christians do not have love and tears enough about it. We ought to let men know that God loves them.

I remember two men at Sherman, Texas, came to my door when I wasn't at home. They were underworld characters. I had been preaching awfully hard against sin. My wife was afraid, because they would not come in and would not tell their names. Soon I came in the back way and she told me, "There are two men out in front waiting for you. Do you think you had better go out there? I wouldn't get in the car with them." I told her not to worry. I went out to them and I said to one,

"What is your name?"

"Never mind," he said, "we had rather not tell you now. Would you mind getting in the car?"

I said, "No, I wouldn't mind." "We are not here for any trouble," one of the men said, "I sat away back on the rocks where the old court house was torn down, hearing you preach several nights, and seeing people saved. We didn't come to the front. We are not fit to do that. Decent people wouldn't come to the meeting if we were up there."

"You are welcome to sit on the front seat, I want you," I said.

But he said, "No, I couldn't do that. I just wanted to ask you a question. I have gone so far in sin—is there any chance for me?"

One said, "My dad has spent \$25,000 on me trying to break me from the dope habit."

The other said, "My mother's hair is white and her heart is broken over my sin. I have committed every sin under Heaven. But, oh, last night I saw Welch saved, and, we just wondered if there was any chance for anybody who has gone so far down as we have. Is there any chance?"

That broke my heart, and I told him, "God loves you just like He loved me when I was a sinner, and I am just like you. We are all in the same boat. God loves you, and He will save you if you trust Him."

I remember how the tears sprang up in one man's eyes and he said, "That is not true. You don't understand how mean we are." Turning to the other, he said, "Did you hear this preacher putting himself in the same boat with us?"

That man was saved a few days later. God is not an enemy of sinners. God must bring sin to punishment and condemnation, and bring wrath and trouble on sinners, but my friend, God is not your enemy. God loves you. Tell God then, "Oh God, I am a sinner, but if Jesus died for me, I will love Him and serve Him."

The woman in John, chapter 8, who was taken in adultery, in the very act, might well have believed God was her enemy. She had broken the law, she had gone into sin. The scribes and Pharisees brought this shame-faced woman with downcast eyes and bowed head before Jesus. They stood and said, "Moses said she should be stoned. What do you say, Jesus?" Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground. I have wondered what He wrote in the sand that day. As the Pharisees said, "What will we do with her?" Jesus said, "All right. You want to stone her, don't you? If there is anybody here without sin, go ahead and do it. If you don't have any sin yourself, you can stone her." And He stooped down again and wrote with His finger in the sand. I wonder what He wrote. "Oh, I can't do that," the eldest said, and he walked away. Their consciences began to smite them and one by one they walked away. But what about the poor woman? She stayed there. I wonder why she did not leave too? Because she knew this Man was not her enemy? He was her friend! He is a friend of sinners. He said to the woman,

"Woman, where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?"

And she answered, "No man, Lord."

"Neither do I condemn thee. Go and sin no more!" He said. One day, the saddest in the history of the world, there hung three men on three crosses on the brow of a hill outside of Jerusalem. On the central cross was the Son of God; Jesus, my Saviour. On either side were two thieves, malefactors, criminals. They cursed and swore and railed at Jesus, these two, on this side and on that side, and said, "Get us down from here if you are the Son of God. Why don't you save yourself and save us?" Those two cursed Him as He hung there and as they did, and after awhile one turned to Jesus. He had heard Him say, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do," and he said, "Lord, when thou comest into thy kingdom, remember me." Jesus said, "I will. Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." Jesus is not the enemy of sinners. If you will repent, admit you are guilty, if you will turn to Jesus, if you want mercy, if you want forgiveness, then He is not your enemy. He is the best friend any sinner ever had in this world.

You think the friends of the wine cup are your friends. They

are not. You may think wine, women and song are your friends. They are not. The prodigal boy, after he landed in the hogpen of sin, could bear witness that they are not your friends. Many a man has had his heart broken when sinful friends left him.

I never will forget I preached one time in a country church near Decatur, Texas. I preached on when Judas betrayed Jesus and came back and threw the money down, saying, "Take this money. It is the price of blood." They said, "We can't do it, see to that yourself. We did not do that." He threw the money down and went out and hanged himself. I then said, "Your companions in sin never bring comfort in trouble. They are not your friends. They leave you alone in your shame." A hush went over that crowd of people. A young woman burst afresh into tears. Conviction was all over the congregation. I did not know why then. But when the service was over, after profound conviction everywhere, and people saved, the pastor said to me,

"When you said your friends in sin are not your friends at all and they leave you, did you notice what happened?"

I said, "Yes, what about it?"

He said, "Did you see a certain young woman begin to weep? Just last Sunday she came and made her confession. She went into sin, and she is to have an illegitimate baby. But the young man who led her into sin has already ruined another girl in another community. He had promised to marry her, but has already gone on somewhere else now."

No, they are not your friends. Your best friend is Jesus who died for sinners.

If there is a sinner here who has gone deep in sin, into black sin, bloody sin, terrible sin; if your sin is as black as Ahab's, do not call God your enemy. He is not your enemy. He is your friend. He loves you. He longs for you. Jesus died for you. Come now and be saved.

I read last night a story Dr. Ironside told in his book, *Charge That to My Account*. "When my boy was little," he said, "I often played games with him. There was one game he always liked to

play. He would say, "Let's play bear." We would take a couple of chairs in a corner and with those chairs make a den. I would have to get down on all fours and put a big fur coat over me and get back in the den. I would be the bear. He would come dancing into the room as if he didn't know anything about a bear being around there. I would run out of the den after him, and he would run. He would always run into some place of safety." This time the boy ran from the bear Dr. Ironside said, and ran into a corner. He could not get out. Dr. Ironside said the little boy screamed as he hid in the corner with the bear behind him—Dr. Ironside, his father. He stood there screaming, but then he turned and said, "You are not a bear! You are my daddy! I am not afraid of you!" and he turned and fell into his father's arms! It was not a bear, it was his father!

Dr. Ironside said, "I remember when God seemed to have hunted me down, as an enemy. I was covered with sin. I thought, 'I am ruined and God is my enemy.' When God cornered me, I turned and said, 'You are not my enemy. You love me. I will give myself into your mercy.' I turned and fell into God's arms! I found He was not my enemy. He was my friend and He took me in His arms and forgave me."

Maybe like Ahab you have gone to a vineyard to possess it and your sins face you. You may say, "I don't know what to do about my sins." I will tell you what to do. God is not your enemy. I would say, "He is my friend. He died for sinners. He loves me. I will cast myself into His arms. What He does about it, this loving Saviour, will be all right with me." The prodigal boy had gone into a far country. He may have thought, "What will dad say to me?" I imagine he thought, "I wasted the money for which he labored a lifetime, what will my father say about it? I couldn't face him." After awhile, I imagine he thought, "I would like to go home, but I can't. I have gone so far I can't. I've wasted my money and played the fool."

(Continued on page eight)

THOMAS JEFFERSON said:

"I always have said, and always will say, that the studious perusal of the sacred volume will make better citizens, better fathers, better husbands."

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." (Psalms 119:9.) For your children's sake, put the Book in their hands and teach them to read it daily.

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PRICES ADVANCE MAY 1

(Continued from page five)
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Until May 1st you may still subscribe for *The Sword of the Lord* for \$1.00 a year. We hope you will take advantage of the opportunities to subscribe for yourself and as many of your friends as possible. We thank God for the way He is blessing this paper to many hearts. Full length gospel sermons by America's greatest soul winners, including Dr. Charles E. Fuller, Dr. H. A. Ironside, Evangelist Hyman Appel- man, Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., Dr. Robert G. Lee, Evangelist Joe Henry Hankins, Dr. Oswald J. Smith, Dr. Louis T. Talbot, Dr. Sam Morris, and many others make *The Sword of the Lord* America's outstanding evangelistic weekly. Thousands tell us that nothing else compares

with this paper for revival emphasis and soul winning power. The price is remarkably low, too low to continue for a big eight-page paper, fifty-two issues to the year. But we are glad to have as many subscriptions as possible before the price advances May 1st. Be sure to renew your own subscription now while you can save money. If your subscription is paid up for some time to come, we will still be glad to extend it a full year for \$1.00. And I suggest that many of you make out lists of friends and relatives, preachers and missionaries and other Christian workers for whom you will subscribe while the price is still at the low rate of \$1.00 per year.

Many feel burdened to send subscriptions for others. Mr. and Mrs. Clair Roth of Buffalo, New York, said: "In one of your sermons at the Prospect Avenue Baptist Church here in Buffalo last fall, you told about a man praying

for a debt he felt was lost to him, and through prayer he received his money." She and her husband determined to pray about money that was due them, asking the Lord for \$50.00 for subscriptions to *The Sword of the Lord*. They received the \$50.00 and Mrs. Roth writes: "So I can't tell you how thrilled we are to send you these fifty names to receive *The Sword of the Lord*. . . . We know of no better way to get the gospel into fifty homes in one week."

A man in Cleveland, Ohio, has just handed in twenty-five subscriptions, with his check for \$25.00. We believe that this is a splendid opportunity to spread revival fire in your church. Some probably will want to send subscriptions to every family in your church. Take advantage of this offer before the price advances May 1st.

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Likewise our readers will do well to supply themselves with books by Dr. John R. Rice before the prices advance. Your orders now in large quantities will save you money and will help us to pay large printing bills due or soon to come due.

We feel it would not be fair to our readers, subscribers, and customers to advance the prices

"WE KNOW OF NO BETTER WAY TO GET THE GOSPEL INTO FIFTY HOMES IN ONE WEEK"

Feb. 21, 1945

Dear Dr. Rice:

In one of your sermons at the Prospect Ave. Baptist Church here in Buffalo last fall, you told about a man praying for a debt he felt was lost to him, and through prayer he received his money.

While you were speaking I thought of our furniture left in our home in Lincoln, for renters to use,—they failed to answer our letters in regard to it, so we felt they must have taken it with them. When I reached home that evening I told my husband about it, without giving due notice and an opportunity for those who wish to buy at present prices or to send subscriptions at the present rate. Thus our announcement is made in time for you to supply yourself with the books and to send the subscriptions you have long wanted to send before the advance in price takes effect.

All subscriptions and all book orders are to be sent to our new address, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

and we determined to pray for a settlement of some kind—asking the Lord for \$50.00 for subscriptions to *The Sword of the Lord*.

We wrote my brother to look into the matter for us,—he found the renters had not taken it, but having nearly ruined it, left it behind, and the buyer had distributed it freely among her friends. It looked hopeless—possession being nine tenths of the law! My brother called on the various people having the furniture, and we kept praying—holding on to God's promise "that all things are possible with God" and where "two are agreed." Last week we received a money order for \$35.00 and \$15.00 from another source.

So, I can't tell you how thrilled we are to send you these 50 names to receive *The Sword of the Lord*, and to pray that God will speak to them as it goes into their homes. We know of no better way to get the gospel into 50 homes in one week. Many whom do not attend any church.

We praise God for you and your ministry—and how much closer to Him it has brought us!

In His Faithfulness,

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Roth,
Buffalo 17, N. Y.

"Hast Thou Found Me, O Mine Enemy?"

(Continued from page seven)

I've gone with harlots, I've worn out my shoes, my robe is gone, I can't, I can't!" But one time he got so far he could not do anything else. He could not run any farther. He was down in the hogpen. He said, "I will arise and go to my father." He was not afraid any more. His father ran to meet him and fell on his neck and kissed him!

God loves you, sinner. God loves you. I love you, too. I would like to help you. My heart goes out to you. God loves you, He is not your enemy. He is your friend. If there is anybody in trouble, sorrow, heartbreak; any lost sinner or any child of God who has played the fool, missed the way, lost your joy: I will tell you what I would do. I would come back to the best friend any poor sinner ever had, Jesus who died to save sinners. Paul never could forget what a sinner he was, and he added "of whom I am chief."

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (I Tim. 1:15). That is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, isn't it?

Are you a sinner? Have you done wrong? Have you played the fool? Then fall into the arms of Jesus who loves sinners like you and me. Prayer: Oh, our Father, tonight teach us our sins are on our trail. Teach us that You are not our enemy, You are our friend. You love us. Show men that sin is the enemy, but that You love them and if in their hearts they turn from sin, You will bless and forgive. Convict sinners. Give blessing to every Christian here, Lord. Bless saved people, church members, men who have drifted down, who have done wrong, but are sorry, Lord. Oh, Lord, I would not come to add a weight upon them but to say God loves them. Oh these men who drank, who cursed and these men who have sinned, tonight let them say, "God loves me, He is my friend. I will arise and go to my Father tonight." And then let them do it. If there is a boy or

a girl who has sinned and done wrong, and has gone on without You and are now lost, lost, lost, let them say, "I will not hide out and let Satan keep me away from God any longer. I will run to Him and let Him kiss away my sins and my tears" Lord, tonight save! Amen.

Decide for Christ Now

Sinner, if you have been hiding from God, if you have been afraid of God, do not be afraid any more, but come to Him, confess yourself a sinner and take the salvation He offers freely and is so anxious to give. He loves you and He will not turn you down. He said, "Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out." Will you come to Him now? If you will, I would be so glad to hear from you, and I will write you a personal letter of encouragement. You may sign and mail the simple form below, if you mean it with all your heart, or write me in your own words telling me you are today taking Christ as your Saviour.

Evangelist John R. Rice
Editor, *The Sword of the Lord*
214 West Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I thank God that Christ Jesus is not my enemy, but He loves me and died for me and right now I am coming to Him, trusting Him for forgiveness and salvation. I will trust Him this moment, to save my soul. By his help I will try to live for Him the rest of my life.

Signed _____
Address _____

The Backslider's Decision

Christian, if you have sinned, lost your joy, if you are far from God, do not be afraid of God, but come back to Him, acknowledge your waywardness and accept His forgiveness and peace. Perhaps, you, too, would like to write me as follows:

Dear Brother Rice:

I have wandered away from God, but today after reading your sermon, "Hast Thou Found Me, O Mine Enemy?" "I have confessed to Him my back-slidings and my failure, and my sins and I trust Him now to receive me and forgive me as He promised to do. By His help I will try to live for Him from now on.

Signed _____
Address _____

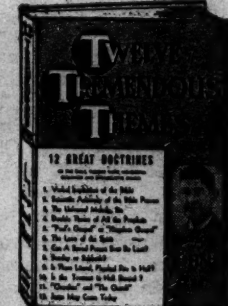
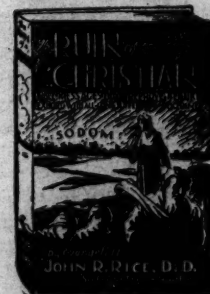
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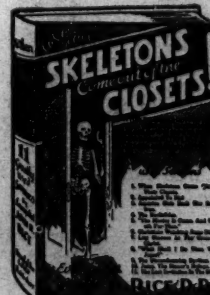
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